

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - August 16, 2020



St. Thomas Aquinas - Thomas, West Virginia



Our Lady of Mercy - Parsons, West Virginia

SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS PARISH

Mission: OUR LADY OF MERCY

Pastor: Rev. Timothy J. Grassi, P.O. Box 300, Thomas, WV 26292 Tel: (304) 463-4488 www.sttsite.com

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Please contact the priest to make arrangements. Instructions for both parents are required. Sponsors from outside the Parish need a letter of eligibility from their Pastors.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Arrangements should be made with the Pastor at least six months in advance of the intended date of marriage. Preparation classes with the Pastor are required.



SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK

If you know of anyone who is seriously ill, hospitalized, shut-in, or about to undergo surgery, please contact the Pastor or the Parish office to let us know.

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Saturday 4:00 - 4:50 p.m. at St. Thomas Aquinas Church, and 30 minutes before all Masses and anytime upon request.

HOLY COMMUNION: *We welcome to the Holy Mass all who share our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. While all are welcome here, we cannot extend to all an invitation to receive Holy Communion. This is not for lack of Christian hospitality. Rather, it is the recognition by the Catholic Church that real divisions of faith and practice do sadly exist among Christians. Practicing Catholics who go to Confession whenever needed are invited to receive Holy Communion. Non-Catholic Christians and those Catholics who should not receive Holy Communion (including those married outside the church and those in need of the sacrament of Penance) are asked to pray for a spiritual communion with the Lord Jesus and for the unity of His Church. Those who are not receiving Holy Communion but who would like to receive a blessing are invited to indicate this desire by crossing their arms across their chests as they approach the priest in the Communion procession.*

JOIN US FOR BOCCE BALL!!!

Our Knights of Columbus Council 2010, has installed a Bocce Ball court at the K of C Park. The Knights would like to introduce everyone to this game. So, today, Sunday, August 16th at 1:00pm we will have a procession and pray the Rosary in honor of Our Lady and Her Feast of the Assumption. After this the Knights will be providing fish dinners and an opportunity to play Bocce Ball or at least learn about the game. There is plenty of room for social distancing and all are welcome to come!

FOOD TRUCK

A Food Truck will be coming to Tucker County on Wednesday, Sept. 2nd between 10 - 11am at the Board of Education office in Parsons and on Wednesday, Oct. 7th between 10 - 11am at the old Shop n' Save parking lot in Davis. Anyone in the county can come and pick up food, you do not have to be low-income to take advantage of this opportunity.

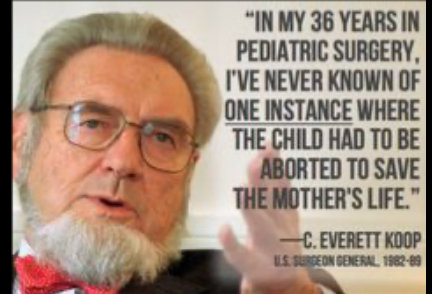
PRAYER LINE

We need more prayer line volunteers. If you are interested in becoming a part of our prayer team please call the rectory and sign up, 304-463-4488.



Memorare

*Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thine intercession was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my mother; to thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me.
Amen.*



"IN MY 36 YEARS IN PEDIATRIC SURGERY, I'VE NEVER KNOWN OF ONE INSTANCE WHERE THE CHILD HAD TO BE ABORTED TO SAVE THE MOTHER'S LIFE."
—C. EVERETT KOOP
U.S. SURGEON GENERAL, 1982-89

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

At Thy feet, O my Jesus, I prostrate myself and I offer Thee the repentance of my contrite heart, which is humbled in its nothingness and in Thy holy presence. I adore Thee in the Sacrament of Thy love, the ineffable Eucharist. I desire to receive Thee into the poor dwelling that my heart offers Thee. While waiting for the happiness of sacramental Communion, I wish to possess Thee in spirit. Come to me, O my Jesus, since I, for my part, am coming to Thee! The love embrace my whole being in life and in death. I believe in Thee, I hope in Thee, I love Thee. Amen.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR August 09, 2020

St. Thomas: \$2,113.16

Our Lady of Mercy: \$1,071.00

FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS

Don't forget our local food pantries in both Thomas and Parsons! Food is needed now more than ever. Please bring your food donations to the back of the church where a volunteer will pick them up and deliver them to the proper location.

Thomas Food Pantry: (cereal)

Parsons Food Pantry: food or monetary donations are Collected every 1st Sunday.

I STARTED PRAYING WITH MARY AND THIS IS WHAT HAPPENED

by SARAH MCMAHON

For a long time I faked having a relationship with Mary. Even after I had a relationship with God, and leadership roles at my parish I just didn't give it much thought. I didn't even know how to correctly say the rosary until I did summer missions in college. So many women in my life told me about their incredible devotion to Our Lady and I just didn't get it. I thought maybe Mary picked favorites. That some people could have a relationship with her and some people just didn't make the cut. I figured I would just keep praying the same way I always had and if Mary wanted to pick me, she would.

I did the consecration to Jesus through Mary for the first time my sophomore year of college. Even then, nothing really seemed to click for me. I posted a photo at the end of it that made me look super cool and Marian grace filled but in reality, I didn't feel like anything had changed. My roommate had an incredible relationship with Mary and that added to the mystery surrounding Our Blessed Mother for me. I wanted the relationship my roommate had, but had no idea how to get there.

After many rosaries, consecrations, and discussions, it ended up just being the Holy Spirit that led me to Mary. Go figure. I was in the chapel after a particularly frustrating few months in my relationship with the Lord. I had tried so many times to give my life to Him. To surrender everything. Yet, I still found myself holding on and I was tired of always being back at the same point. It was in this moment of weakness, frustration, and disappointment that Mary broke through my defenses. I understood that I couldn't just give everything to God, I was too weak. But Mary gently took everything I was holding so tightly to and directed me towards Jesus. Her comforting, motherly presence led me to have peace in surrender. Finally, I understood why my friends relied so heavily on their relationship with Mary. I realized that giving my life to Christ on my own was too much for my little soul and the only way to grow closer to Him was to let Mary, my gentle mother, guide me there. That was when I realized how much I need Mary and the role she plays in my salvation even today, years after her "yes" to the angel.

God can come to us without Mary, He doesn't need anything extra to encounter and love us. But sometimes, our human hearts need help. That's where Mary comes in. In John 19:26 Jesus says to John, the beloved disciple, "behold your mother." In that moment, Jesus was giving all of us a gift- a heavenly mother to watch over us and lead us to Him. She takes all of our failures and faults and presents them to Jesus like flowers and trophies. She intercedes for us and pleads for the grace we need to move forward in our journey to sainthood. Mary joins the angels in protecting us from the evil one and as the spouse of the Spirit bestows special graces upon even the littlest of her children.

Three Ways to Start Walking With Mary.

My relationship with Mary continues to ebb and flow, just like any other relationship. But, I know that she is fighting for me, protecting me, guiding me, and loving me even when I fall short or get lazy. However, I have found that even the simplest of prayers is heard by the Blessed Virgin.

The Memorare: One of the most beautiful prayers we can say to ask Mary to help us is the memorare. A priest recently gave me a copy in confession and I keep it in my car for particularly long red lights and when I begin and end my workday. Not only is the memorare simple but it's also incredibly powerful. It's an easy way to start incorporating Momma Mary into your life. (*See the Memorare on the opposite page of the bulletin.*)

The Rosary: It's especially hard for me to pick up my rosary but also incredibly important. St. Louis de Montfort says, "It would hardly be possible for me to put into words how much Our Lady thinks of the Holy Rosary and of how she vastly prefers it to all other devotions." and "The Rosary is the most powerful weapon to touch the Heart of Jesus, Our Redeemer, who loves His Mother." Recitation of the Rosary, with sincere love, has great power to restore us and pull us close to the heart of Jesus. I found that carrying my rosary with me throughout the day led me to pray it more often. I encourage you to keep a rosary on you as often as you have your cell phone, you'll be amazed at how often you begin to pray it.

Praying with Mary in Scripture:

Lastly, find the heart of Mary in scripture. Though she says little, her words mean much. She is constant in her trust in the Lord and perfect in her surrender and gives us an example of the perfect disciple.

Mary doesn't pick favorites. She is here for all of us as a gift from the Lord. I encourage you to persevere in your relationship with Mary, even when you feel forgotten or left out. Mary has a love and heart for you because she knows how much Jesus yearns for you. Let your mother help you, she's just waiting for you to ask.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK
Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday, Aug 17

Weekday

7:15am (T) God's blessing on Pope Francis,
the Church & CUF

Tuesday, Aug 18

Weekday

5:00pm (T) Gene Randolph †

Wednesday, Aug 19

St. John Eudes (Optional Mem)

9:00am (P) Alice & Ray Dye †

Thursday, Aug 20

St. Bernard, Abbot and Doctor of the Church (Mem)

5:00pm (T) Joe Pounds OFM †

Friday, Aug 21

St. Pius X, Pope (Mem)

5:00pm (T) Mr. & Mrs. Antonio Cocco †

Saturday, Aug 22

The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Mem)

9:00am (P) David F. Silk †

5:00pm (T) Pamela Palmer †

Sunday, August 23

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00am (T) "Champ" Sedmock †

11:00am (P) People of the Parish

THE TRADITIONAL LATIN MASS

*During the month of September,
the Tridentine Mass will be offered at:*

St. Thomas - (Low Mass) 09/13/20 at 7:30 AM

**My God, I believe, I adore, I hope and I love You!
I ask pardon of You for those who do not believe,
do not adore, do not hope and do not love You!**

**Simple
Exposition**

**8:30 - 9:00am
every Wed
in Parsons**

**4:30 - 5:00pm
every Friday
in Thomas**



**Adoration &
Benediction**

**Every First
Friday**

**Next month:
Sept. 04
5:00 - 6:00pm
in Thomas**

If you would like to place someone
on our prayer line call:
Susie Gutshall (304) 478-3217
Or Cindy Long (304) 478-4833

**Let us remember in prayer all
of our sick and shut-ins:**

"Sob" Gennantonio, Mary Johnson, Jean Sagace,
Joyce Arnold, Donna Mason, Elaine Watson, Paula
Cannon, Paula Siler, Anne McVicker, Jerry &
Madonna DiBacco, & Paul Wojtkowski.

**We offer a hearty welcome to all of our
visitors! If you would like to make a
contribution to our parish, please use the
visitor's envelope in the pew.**

The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston is committed to the protection of its children and young people. The Diocese complies with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People by maintaining an Office of Safe Environment. To report an incidence of suspected child sexual abuse, please contact your local law enforcement agency, or you may confidentially contact the West Virginia Bureau for Children and Families/Child Protective Services by calling the Child Abuse Hotline at 800.352.6513. To report suspected cases of sexual abuse by personnel of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to the Diocese, please contact one of the Bishop's designees at 888.434.6237 (toll free) or 304.233.0880: Sister Ellen Dunn, ext. 264; Mr. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Mr. Tim Bishop, ext. 353; or Rev. Dennis Schuelkens, ext. 270 or call the Office of Safe Environment at 304-230-1504. For more information on the Diocese's Office of Safe Environment, please go to www.dwc.org, then click the "Diocese" tab, then click "Office of Safe Environment" under the "Offices" menu. To learn more about the Catholic Church's efforts in preventing sexual abuse of children in the United States, please visit <http://www.usccb.org>. Under "Issues and Action," click "Child and Youth Protection" from the drop down menu.